

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of producing a ceramic substrate comprised of a base that comprises ~~a stack of~~ layers in a stack, each layer in the stack comprising a non-sintered ceramic material and a binder, the method comprising:

debinding the layers in a temperature interval of $T_{E1} [-]$ to T_{E3} , where T_{E1} is a minimum debinding temperature and $T_{E3} > T_{E1}$; and

sintering the layers at a temperature T_S , where $T_S \geq T_{E3}$;

wherein debinding and sintering are performed in a same furnace; ~~and~~

wherein a temperature T of the base does not fall below T_{E1} during debinding and sintering;

wherein debinding begins at a temperature between T_{E1} and T_{E2} that increases at an increasing rate, where $T_{E1} < T_{E2} < T_{E3}$, whereafter T decreases to a value of T_{E1}' , where $T_{E1} < T_{E1}' < T_{E2}'$

wherein a first part of debinding is performed in an atmosphere that is inert; and

wherein, during debinding, an atmosphere in the furnace changes from an inert atmosphere to an air atmosphere in accordance with a reduction in temperature to T_{E1}' ,

wherein at least two of the layers comprise different ceramic materials; and

wherein a first layer of the stack comprises a first ceramic material, and a second layer of the stack comprises a second ceramic material;

wherein, following sintering, the first ceramic material has a relative permittivity ϵ_1 ,
where $7 \leq \epsilon_1 \leq 8.5$; and

wherein, following sintering, the second ceramic material has a relative permittivity ϵ_2 ,
where $18 \leq \epsilon_2 \leq 22$.

2. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

forming the stack of layers;

wherein forming comprises forming openings in the layers and adding a metalliferous paste to at least some of the openings.

3. (Previously presented) The method of claim 2, wherein the metalliferous paste comprises silver or silver-palladium.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2, wherein the stack of layers comprises a first layer comprised of a first ceramic materials, and a second layer comprised of a second ceramic material, the second layer being above the first layer second layer is disposed above the first layer;

wherein the first ceramic material begins to sinter at a temperature T_{S1} , the second ceramic material begins to sinter at a temperature T_{S3} , and the metalliferous paste begins to sinter at a temperature T_{S2} ; and

wherein $T_{S1} < T_{S2} < T_{S3}$.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Previously presented) The method of claim 2, wherein forming comprises providing structured metallization layers between layers in the stack comprised of sintered ceramic material, the structured metallization layers comprising the metalliferous paste.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 5, further comprising:
forming a stratified compound using the first layer and the second layer, the ceramic substrate comprising plural stratified compounds; and
~~wherein~~ forming structured metallization layers between the stratified compounds.

9 to 13. (Canceled)

14. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein at least two of the layers comprise different ceramic materials.

15. (New) The method of claim 5, wherein, following sintering, the first ceramic material has a relative permittivity ε_1 , where $7 \leq \varepsilon_1 \leq 8.5$; and
wherein, following sintering, the second ceramic material has a relative permittivity ε_2 ,
where $18 \leq \varepsilon_2 \leq 22$.

16. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein T increases at a substantially constant rate to a value T_{E3} after T decreases to the value of T_{EI} .